(a) whether it is a fact that more than 70 employees of Super Bazar run by the Central Government were affected by jaundice after drinking contaminated water from its water tanks;

(b) whether it is also a fact that as per the NDMC no complaint has been received from the resident of Shankar Market and Minto Road and it may therefor be due to poor maintenance of internal supply system; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken to ensure supply of clean drinking water in Super Bazar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) and (b) As per the information furnished by Super Bazar, around 40 employees suffered from jaundice in March/April, 2001. The N.D.M.C. have reported that there was no complaint of contaminated water from the nearby areas of Shankar Market and Minto Road;

(c) Storage tanks of Super Bazar are being cleaned as per guidelines of the N.D.M.C. The quality of water is being tested on day-to-day basis.

Rejection of Indian wheat by Iraq

2585. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian wheat is sold in the world market at prices of $103.00 to $107.00 per tonnes whereas we have contracted to supply wheat to Iraq at $160.00 per tonne;

(b) whether Iraqi Grain Board has rejected two Indian wheat consignments insisting that it should be free of inorganic matter whereas the contract stipulates that maximum limit of foreign matter should not exceed 2 per cent;

(c) whether this is a ploy by Iraqi Grain Board to renegotiate the prices with India; and

(d) whether India is likely to raise the issue with the International Trade Arbitration bodies like Gafta?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIKAM CHAUHAN): (a) FCI was authorised to issue wheat for the purpose of export to Iraq @ Rs. 4340/- per MT. Export was undertaken by PSUs and private parties at different rates, as per their contracts with the buyers.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) There is no proposal to renegotiate the prices.

(d) No, Sir.